

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)

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What does this appropriation support?

It supports a statewide delivery system for Food Stamp and Temporary Assistance benefits. Operational statewide since May 1998, the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) replaced a paper-based system with a more secure debit card. Formerly, Food Stamp benefits were provided through paper coupons and Temporary Assistance recipients received checks. The EBT system has been a successful benefit delivery system, enabling recipients to use the same type of system used everyday by other consumers completing transactions with debit and credit cards. Inherent in the system is the availability of data that can be used to identify retailer and recipient fraud. This system supports the intended use of the benefits by maximizing the amount of benefits spent for legitimate purposes.

The Family Support Division currently contracts with eFunds Government Solutions to coordinate the activities of this program.

What is the authorization for this program?

State statute: RSMo 208.182; Federal law: Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, PL 104-193.

Is this a federally mandated program?

Yes. PL 104-193, Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996. Distributing Food Stamp benefits through this method is a federal requirement.

Are there federal matching requirements?

Yes. The state match for over 90% of program expenditures is 50%. The remaining expenditures are allocated to a pool that earns a federal rate collectively.

What are the expenditures?

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Planned
GR	\$1,681,454	\$3,461,649	\$4,026,564	\$4,168,024
FEDERAL	\$2,200,784	\$2,920,846	\$3,426,425	\$3,542,518
OTHER	\$996,097	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$4,878,335	\$6,382,495	\$7,452,989	\$7,710,542

What are the sources of other funds?

FY 2003 - Intergovernmental Transfer Fund

How many people are served?

FY	Temporary Assistance Cases	Food Stamp Cases
2002	48,992	215,351
2003	46,630	238,130
2004	47,793	275,760
2005	47,174	295,854

Effectiveness and Efficiency Measure:

Percentage of Recipients Receiving Benefits Electronically		
FY	Actual Percentage Receiving Benefits Electronically	Projected Percentage Receiving Benefits Electronically
2003	96.6%	N/A
2004	100.0%	96.8%
2005	100.0%	100.0%
2006		100.0%
2007		100.0%
2008		100.0%